

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

Hearing Date: March 18, 2021 8:00 AM

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COMMENTS FOR: HB 752

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Kellye Duncan

self

San Angelo, TX

Dear Committee members,

Election integrity is vital to every community & county across our great state regardless of party preference. We must maintain our voter ID laws and have other means to maintain the truth in all elections. If we must show an ID to purchase beer, wine, alcohol, tobacco, BOARD AN AIRPLANE, cash a check or any other multiple times, we must prove who we are when voting. I would hate to learn that my mother had voted - she has been dead since 1997. I would hate to learn that my neighbor had voted even though he is not a registered voter. Please review with your heart the logical and legal methods to ensure our elections are true and fair. Thank you for your service to our great state of Texas!

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Larry Ringler

Self-retired

Portland, TX

I fully oppose this bill, which would remove power from local authorities and grant it to large bodies, in violation of the U.S. Constitution. Please vote against this bill.

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DONNA EYLES

Self

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

No, No, No. Changing the word from "may" to "shall" takes away the ability to delve into questions surrounding an election.

Please vote NO on HB 752.

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McKenzie Chapa

Self

ORANGE GROVE, TX

We should not demand anyone to make a certain decision. Vote NO to HR 752.

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Eric Mann

Self

Dallas, TX

Oppose

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scott mesmer

self

Corpus Christi, TX

Words have meaning and in legislation they have power. Changing shall to may makes a law too vague and removes clarity. Shall is a word for must and removes ambiguity. We need clarity that provides language that is clear so that small authorities do not have to get guidance from larger agencies thus preventing concentration of power. Keep voting power at the local level as intended.

Please vote against HB 752

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Julie Garcia

self

Corpus Christi, TX

Please vote against! Verbiage is KEY! This was explained well:

"Such a small change of words: "may" to "shall". "May" obviously gives the governing body of the political subdivision or certifying authority to make their own decision, based on knowledge of their own subdivision, candidate, or situation. "Shall" is another word for "Must". This removes power from smaller authorities and puts more power in the hands of larger authorities. The U.S. Constitution grants power to the People, through their own localities. This is a small step towards the end goal of the Federal Government taking over States', Counties', and Citys' rights. Let's not take that step, even if it appears minimal to you at this time."

Please vote  
against HB 752.

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Cinde Weatherby, Voting Rights/Election Law Ch.

League of Women Voters of Texas

Austin, TX

Support of HB 752

-- HB 752 will help address the increasingly longer ballots and elimination of straight-party ticket balloting. Updated and modernized election equipment, while a very good thing, can also increase voting time until familiarity increases.

-- Placing all uncontested races in one location on the bottom of the ballot is less confusing and shortens voting time. Governor Abbott and the Secretary of State offered this and other measures to election officials during the challenging 2020 election period. LWVTX requests your favorable consideration of this bill.

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Aaron Ramirez

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

While words may mean nothing these days, they couldn't mean more now! A government is of the people, by the people, for the people.

"Shall" and "may" mean two different things. Keeping the power of the people is to keep it a "may". Please vote against HB752!

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Jennifer Lane, 752

self

Denton, TX

I oppose this bill. I have often voted for candidates who are unopposed and have often left those spaces blank for the same reason the person testifying is describing. This is especially important in municipal and other local races. Also, it is not "ego" to want to know how many votes one has received. What should be allowed instead is write-ins, which are currently not allowed unless registered during a specific time period.

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Mary Wilson

Self

Austin, TX

A few extra lines on the ballot is not an issue and a waste of our taxpayer dollars even discussing it. All to be elected should be on the ballot.

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Kathy Williams

self, retired

Austin, TX

Support. Having been an election clerk, I have witnessed long ballots confuse voters, especially older voters using voting machines. This was a big problem in the 2018 election. This bill would help take pressure off election and voters in high turnout workers.

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Ben Brown

Self- Retired

Fairview, TX

March 18, 2021

House Elections Committee

Re: HB752- Election of Unopposed Candidates

I am opposed the HB752 because it removes my right to elect a candidate to a public office. If this bill is enacted, there will be officials serving in positions of public trust who will have not received a single vote from citizens. Just filing to be a candidate is not equal to being elected by citizens. Furthermore, it is my right to vote either "For" or "Against" an unopposed candidate. HB752 eliminates that right.

Respectfully yours,

Ben Brown

Legislative and Campaign Activities Director

Republican Club at Heritage Ranch

Fairview, Texas

972-363-0620 jbenbrownpe@msn.com

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Carol Edwards

self / retired

Austin, TX

FOR??????

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Kathy Turner

self, retired

McGregor, TX

I oppose this bill as it would not allow write-in candidates for unopposed elections. I am also against the current law, the permissive language of which allows local governing bodies to in effect prohibit write in candidates.

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